

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1711

To amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to direct the Office of Community Affairs to identify causes leading to, and solutions for, under-banked, un-banked, and underserved consumers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 9, 2021

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to direct the Office of Community Affairs to identify causes leading to, and solutions for, under-banked, un-banked, and underserved consumers, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Financial Inclusion
5 in Banking Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS DUTIES WITH RE-**
2 **SPECT TO UNDER-BANKED, UN-BANKED, AND**
3 **UNDERSERVED CONSUMERS.**

4 Section 1013(b)(2) of the Consumer Financial Pro-
5 tection Act of 2010 (12 U.S.C. 5493(b)(2)) is amended—

6 (1) by striking “The Director shall establish a
7 unit” and inserting the following:

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall es-
9 tablish a unit to be known as the ‘Office of
10 Community Affairs’ ”; and

11 (2) by adding at the end the following:

12 “(B) DUTIES RELATED TO UNDER-
13 BANKED, UN-BANKED, AND UNDERSERVED
14 CONSUMERS.—

15 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Office of
16 Community Affairs shall—

17 “(I) lead coordination of research
18 to identify any causes and challenges
19 contributing to the decision of individ-
20 uals who, and households that, do not
21 initiate or maintain on-going and sus-
22 tainable relationships with depository
23 institutions, including consulting with
24 trade associations representing deposi-
25 tory institutions, trade associations
26 representing minority depository insti-

1 tutions, organizations representing the
2 interests of traditionally underserved
3 consumers and communities, organi-
4 zations representing the interests of
5 consumers (particularly low- and mod-
6 erate-income individuals), civil rights
7 groups, community groups, consumer
8 advocates, and the Consumer Advisory
9 Board about this matter;

10 “(II) identify subject matter ex-
11 perts within the Bureau to work on
12 the issues identified under subclause
13 (I);

14 “(III) lead coordination efforts
15 between other Federal departments
16 and agencies to better assess the rea-
17 sons for the lack of, and help increase
18 the participation of, under-banked,
19 un-banked, and underserved con-
20 sumers in the banking system; and

21 “(IV) identify and develop strate-
22 gies to increase financial education to
23 under-banked, un-banked, and under-
24 served consumers.

1 “(ii) COORDINATION WITH OTHER BU-
2 REAU OFFICES.—In carrying out this para-
3 graph, the Office of Community Affairs
4 shall consult with and coordinate with the
5 research unit established under subsection
6 (b)(1) and such other offices of the Bureau
7 as the Director may determine appropriate.

8 “(iii) REPORTING.—

9 “(I) IN GENERAL.—The Office of
10 Community Affairs shall submit a re-
11 port to Congress, within two years of
12 the date of enactment of this subpara-
13 graph and every 2 years thereafter,
14 that identifies any factors impeding
15 the ability of, or limiting the option
16 for, individuals or households to have
17 access to fair, on-going, and sustain-
18 able relationships with depository in-
19 stitutions to meet their financial
20 needs, discusses any regulatory, legal,
21 or structural barriers to enhancing
22 participation of under-banked, un-
23 banked, and underserved consumers
24 with depository institutions, and con-
25 tains recommendations to promote

1 better participation for all consumers
2 with the banking system.

3 “(II) TIMING OF REPORT.—To
4 the extent possible, the Office shall
5 submit each report required under
6 subclause (I) during a year in which
7 the Federal Deposit Insurance Cor-
8 poration does not issue the report on
9 encouraging use of depository institu-
10 tions by the unbanked required under
11 section 49 of the Federal Deposit In-
12 surance Act.”.

13 **SEC. 3. DISCRETIONARY SURPLUS FUNDS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—The dollar amount specified
15 under section 7(a)(3)(A) of the Federal Reserve Act (12
16 U.S.C. 289(a)(3)(A)) is reduced by \$10,000,000.

17 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
18 subsection (a) shall take effect on September 30, 2029.

19 **SEC. 4. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.**

20 The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of
21 complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010,
22 shall be determined by reference to the latest statement
23 titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this
24 Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record
25 by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, pro-

- 1 vided that such statement has been submitted prior to the
- 2 vote on passage.

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